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PATENT  
Attorney Docket No. 5905.0056

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Maki KATO et al.

Serial No.: 09/135,024

Filed: August 17, 1998

For: DATA PROCESSING APPARATUS  
AND PROCESSING METHOD AND  
MEDIUM THEREFOR

) JUL 12 1999  
)  
) TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700  
)  
) Group Art Unit: 3713  
)  
) Examiner: Unknown  
)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

JUL 12 1999  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

A copy of the listed document is attached. In lieu of a statement of relevance, an English abstract is provided setting forth the relevance thereof.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed document and indicate that it was considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed document is

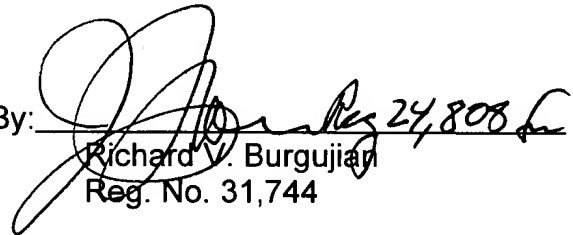
material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies the document as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited document does not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such document.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed document, should the document be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

By:  Reg 24,808 for  
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Date: July 9, 1999